

# Roadrunner News March 2009



**Alfa Owners Club**

**Roadrunner Chapter**

**March 2009**

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## President's Corner

To my Roadrunner Family,

Congratulations to Dianne and Clayton Jones the Wagon Masters and their able assistants Jean and Will Bass for a successful camp out under the stars at Quartzsite. A true measure of its success is the willingness of next year's Wagon Masters to volunteer. They are George and Robin Minder, assisted by Ron and Kit Cressler. Thanks to all.

During the business meeting at Quartzsite the desire for more, less expensive, rallies/gatherings was raised. The primary issue that is preventing this from happening is the lack of volunteers coming forward to host rallies/gatherings. In an effort to encourage people to do this, we will be running a "workshop" which would cover the duties of being a Wagon Master during the pre-rally for National rally in April.

Your executive is also considering ways to subsidize gatherings/rallies to reduce the over all cost of attending to members. To encourage attendance at gatherings/rallies the following ideas were also discussed: joining with other Chapters and sharing the duties of "hosting"; holding gatherings/rallies for specific interest groups ie crafts, hiking, exercise etc. In an attempt to solicit ideas from the membership about future rallies/gatherings, a questionnaire is being developed that will be sent to all Roadrunner members.

Another major area of discussion at the Quartzsite gathering was about how to attract new members. It was thought that we should target the 9,000 plus Alfa owners who are not members of any of the Alfa owner's chapters. Two sided Alfa Roadrunners pamphlet and / or "business" cards to hand out to Alfa Owners we meet along the way were discussed. We also discussed the possibility of advertising for new members in RV related magazines.

2009 Alfa National: There is a meeting scheduled to discuss the need for a National Board of Representatives and for a National Rally. For those who are planning to attend the 2009 National, please put some thought into these two issues so we can discuss these issues before the meeting. As we are now Alfa orphans, there is even more of a need to tighten our family ties whatever that might look like.

Diane and Fred Hawley had volunteered to host the Pre-Rally for National but due to Fred's health problems (He is doing fine) they have had to withdraw their offer. Bill and I will act as the Wagon Masters with Patti and Cal Chastain assisting us. Refer to Pre National Rally in this newsletter.

We are hoping to have a Pampered Chef presentation and a tech support meeting for those interested

I would like to thank Melinda Rauscher, a Roadrunner who creates Web Sites, has volunteered to update the Roadrunners Web Site. This has been a personal headache and I am thrilled that Melinda offered to do this.

That's it for now. I hope to SeeYa down the road.

Sheila Heath

President, Alfa Roadrunners

## **National Board**

No news at this time.

## **Business**

### **Request for member input**

In an attempt to improve the value of your Newsletter, we need your input. Chapter members are encouraged to share their experiences, maintenance tips, product evaluations, etc. with the Chapter. Please consider writing down your thoughts and sending them to the editor. Any and all ideas will be considered.

## **Rally and Camp Out Reports**

### **Quartzsite Camp Out**

[See Pictures of the Rally](#)

We were blessed with wonderful weather for the annual Quartzsite Campout at La Posa North January 17 -25, 2009. Clayton and Dianne Jones were the Wagon Masters and Jean and Will Bass were their assistants. Throughout the week 30 rigs and 57 Alfa Roadrunners and guests rolled into our camp. Some came early, some just visited for a day or two, but most enjoyed the entire campout. We even had a few that stayed a few days after.

Each day started with a beautiful desert sunrise, fresh doughnuts and hot coffee around the Louisiana Fireplace furnished by Ted and Nancy Jacobs. Afterwards, some attended the largest flea market west of the Mississippi River, wading through the crowds in the big tent to see the latest RV goodies, to get needed supplies, and to purchase a few big items for their motor homes. Others relaxed at camp, took hikes, and rode their four wheelers out on the desert. Craig Christen led two discussions on RV maintenance, driving hints and boondocking. And the women met one afternoon to share their organization and "must have" items while living in our Alfas. We even managed to squeeze in a brief

business meeting. Since Sheila Heath (our President) was ill, Bill Heath (our Treasurer) conducted the meeting. Membership, dues, and the National was discussed, but nothing was decided. Friday afternoon Dick, Melinda, Willard and Jean met for a jam session filling the air with their music.

Each evening we gathered for Happy Hour. As the sun went down, we moved nearer to the warmth of the campfire, sharing experiences, making new friends, and rekindling friendships.

Clayton and Dianne planned some excellent activities which somehow revolved around food. First was the Wagon Master's Dinner where we enjoyed a wonderful Spaghetti Dinner that Dianne and Jean prepared. Clayton welcomed us all and set the stage for an exciting week. We introduced ourselves to the group before the sun slipped away.

Sunday night we had Heavy hors d'oeuvres and then Jean and Will Bass entertained us with their country music.

One morning we had Breakfast in a Bag. We each brought (1) a Ziplock bag with a couple of raw eggs scrambled up in it, and (2) ingredients for an omelet to share. Then we put the items of our choice in our bag and Clayton dropped it into a vat of boiling water. It wasn't long before our meal was done. It was a perfect breakfast for a cool January morning.

It wouldn't be a campout without a Weenie Roast. So, we all brought franks, buns and condiments to share. Dianne provided the homemade chili. You just can't beat a Hot Dog around a campfire.

We were served pancakes and sausage on another morning. Everyone complimented Dianne and Clayton on the delicious pancakes. Come to find out Dianne added some beer to the batter making them extra light and fluffy. Atta way to go Dianne! It was a great warm-up breakfast to start the day.

And, of course, we can't forget the Sheriff's Pot Luck Dinner Saturday evening. Fifty-three of us managed to fill four tables with a wide variety of yummy food. After our tummies were full, Robin Minder took a group picture. And it wasn't long before Clayton revealed the Sheriff. It was Nancy Jacobs! She had spent the entire week catching us NOT following the rules of the camp. She managed to find us all guilty in one way or another and fined us accordingly. It was all in fun and a great way to end a wonderful week.

It's important to note that Jim and Dorthey Collard (our Vice-President and Secretary/Membership and National Reps.) were able to come for a short visit. It was good to see them again. And Charlie and Vicki were called back home early because Vicki's dad's health was critical. Our Wagon Masters for next year were announced. George and Robin Minder volunteered to take on the job. They will be assisted by Ron & Kit Cressler. Let's all give them our support.

We want to thank Clayton and Dianne for a week we will all remember.. All their planning and hard work were well worth it. We appreciate the many hours they spent making sure our week was we hoped it to be.

Rally Attendees:

Earl & Sami Aeverman  
Ray & MaryAnne Balzer  
Will & Jean Bass

Joe & Betty Choate  
Craig & Terilu Christen  
Jim & Dorthey Collard

Ron & Kit Cressler  
Charlie & Vicki DuBose  
Jim & Shirley Ellis

Cal & Karen Forrester  
Dan & Arlene Harris  
Bill & Sheila Heath  
Larry & Rosalie Heuer  
Jeff & Diane Horvath  
Joe Hughes  
Ted & Nancy Jacobs  
Clayton & Dianne Jones

Jerry Logan  
George & Ann Mallow  
Charles & BJ Mills  
George & Robin Minder  
Sven & Sharon Novion  
Dick & Melinda Rauscher  
Brent & Carol Rouse  
Gene & Penny Ryder

Bud & Jan Serpa  
Paul Smith  
Don & Dodi Steele  
Don Wigington & his  
brother, Norm Wigington  
Walter & Darlene Wilson

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jean Bass

[Editor's Note: Clayton and I wish to thank Will and Jean Bass for all the help they gave us as assistant wagon masters. We could not have done it without them. Also, thanks Will and Jean for the wonderful evening's entertainment. *Dianne Jones*]

## Future Events

Date	Campground	Locations	Wagon Masters
April 24-29, 2009	National Pre-Rally	Bakersfield, CA	Bill & Sheila Heath
April 29-May 6, 2009	Alfa National Rally	Bakersfield, CA	Arnie & Emily Burr
January 2010	Quartzsite Camp Out	Quartzsite, AZ	George & Robin Minder

### National Pre-Rally



Alfa Roadrunner Pre-Rally  
Date: April 24<sup>th</sup> - April 29<sup>th</sup>.

Our Pre-Rally is fast approaching.

First and foremost, I need to report that Fred Hawley is doing well and he and Diane hope to be in attendance.

Again we are holding our Pre-Rally at the same park as National so no need to travel between events.

Morning coffee and treats, Happy Hours, Dinners, a Walking Taco Lunch, a Pampered Chef (RV friendly) Presentation, Golf Outing, Tech Talk and a Wagon Master Training Workshop have been scheduled.

If this doesn't keep you busy there is the National Hot Rod Show to attend in Bakersfield as well as great biking and walking trails.

We have been told by the Bakersfield R.V. Resort that we can have some additional spots for the Pre-Rally so there is still room to join us. If you would like to attend please give us a call (713-252-9376) to make arrangements.

Safe Driving

Bill and Sheila Heath  
Wagon Masters  
Alfa Roadrunners Pre-Rally

## **National Rally**

Alfa National Rally  
April 29 – May 6, 2009  
Bakersfield RV Resort  
5025 Wible Road  
Bakersfield, CA 93313

Hosted by the Mavericks  
Rally Masters: Arnie and Emily Burr  
E-mail: [a.burr@sbcglobal.net](mailto:a.burr@sbcglobal.net)

Arnie Burr has told us that there is a waiting list to attend the National Rally. If you have any questions about the National, please contact him at [a.burr@sbcglobal.net](mailto:a.burr@sbcglobal.net).

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**Highlight for Album: 2009  
Quartzsite**

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## 2009 Quartzsite

Created on 03/20/09, last changed on 03/20/09. This album contains 50 items.

This album has been viewed 3 times since 03/20/09.

**Highlight for Album: Durango  
October 2008**

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## Durango October 2008

Created on 03/17/09, last changed on 03/20/09. This album contains 5 items.

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